WHEREAS, the Preamble to the United States Constitution mentions forming "a more perfect Union" first in its list of purposes of the Constitution, and for more than 230 years the government outlined by the U.S. Constitution has maintained representative government based on the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, over the course of American history, the American people have made changes to their government, including formal amendments to the U.S. Constitution, to fulfill promises of the Framers and guarantee rights; and

WHEREAS, the United States has overcome great challenges in its history, including a Civil War, two world wars in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, global pandemics, and periodic economic depressions; and

WHEREAS, the creating a "more perfect Union" requires an educated citizenry that understands the rule of law and demonstrates engaged citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Law Day 2023 is "Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility, and Collaboration," inviting all the people of the United States to join us in rebuilding trust in our institutions, respect for one another, and our willingness to collaborate to address the challenges that face our nation.; and

WHEREAS, the Coral Gables Bar Association in collaboration with the City of Coral Gables is celebrating this day by hosting the students of Ponce de Leon Middle School to observe the process of municipal legislation, in order to foster their understanding of the rule of law and to encourage their commitment to achieving a "a more perfect Union";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, VINCE LAGO, as Mayor of the City of Coral Gables, along with the members of our City Commission, do hereby proclaim the week of May 1, 2023:

## "LAW DAY IN CORAL GABLES"

IN OBSERVANCE THEREOF, I hereby urge everyone to observe this day by renewing their commitment to work toward achieving a more perfect Union that strengthens our democracy, defends liberty, and pursues justice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of Coral Gables to be affixed on this tenth day of May, A.D., 2023.

Vince Lago Mayor

Rhonda Anderson Commissioner

Melissa Castro Commissioner Ariel Fernandez Commissioner

Kirk R. Menendez Commissioner